APR 1 5 2002

Patent TECH CENTER 1600/2900 Attorney's Docket No. <u>022701-879</u>

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

n re Patent Application	on of	BOX RCE			
Michel COSTANTIN	I et al.	Group Art Unit: 1623			
Application No.: 09/	623.414	Examiner: Chaudhry, M.			
Filed: November 8, 2	2000				
	OR SEPARATING AND ADIPIC ACID				
	AMENDMENT/REPLY TR	ANSMITTAL LETTER			
Assistant Commission Washington, DC 202					
Sir:					
Enclosed is a rep	ply for the above-identified pate	ent application.			
[ ] A Petition	for Extension of Time is also	enclosed.			
	al Disclaimer and a check for [ Government fee are also enclose	] \$55.00 (248) [ ] \$110.00 (148) to cover the ed.			
[X] Also enclo	sed is a copy of GB Patent 1;	576 297			
[] Small enti	ty status is hereby claimed.				
[X] Applicant( [] \$370.00	Applicant(s) request continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the [] \$370.00 (279) [X] \$740.00 (179) fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).				
[ ] Appl reque		_, on, for which continued examination is			
exceed the	Applicant(s) request suspension of action by the Office until at least _, which does not exceed three months from the filing of this RCE, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c). The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed.				
	A Request for Entry and Consideration of Submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a) (146/246) is also enclosed.				
[ ] No addition	No additional claim fee is required.				
[X] An addition	An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below:				

	No. OF CLAIMS	HIGHEST NO. OF CLAIMS PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	ADDT'L FEE
Total Claims	23	MINUS 22 =	1	× \$18.00 (103) =	18.00
Independent Claims	2	MINUS 3 =	0	× \$84.00 (102) =	-0-
If Amendment adds m	ultiple depende	ent claims, add \$280.	.00 (104)		
Total Amendment Fee					18.00
If small entity status is	claimed, subt	ract 50% of Total Ar	mendment Fee	2	
TOTAL ADDITIONA	AL FEE DUE	FOR THIS AMEN	DMENT		18.00

[X]	A claim	fee in	the	amount	of \$_	18.00	is enclosed.

[ ] Charge \$\_\_\_\_\_to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

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P.O. Box 1404 Alexandria, VA 22313-1404 703/836-6620

Date: April 10, 2002





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Michel COSTANTINI et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 1623
Application No.: 09/623,414	)	Examiner: Chaudhry, M.
Filed: November 8, 2000	)	RECEIVED
For: METHOD FOR SEPARATING AND PURIFYING ADIPIC ACID	)	APR   5 2002
	ĺ	TECH CENTER 1600:2900

## SECOND REPLY AND AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the final Official Action dated September 25, 2001, Applicants submit the following amendment and remarks.

## **IN THE CLAIMS**:

Please add new claim 23 as follows:

- 23. (New) A process for treating the reaction mixture resulting from the direct oxidation of cyclohexane to adipic acid with molecular oxygen in an organic solvent in the presence of a catalyst, said process comprising:
- (a) separating the reaction mixture into two liquid phases by settling to form an upper phase comprising cyclohexane, and a lower phase comprising an organic solvent, diacids formed during the oxidation reaction, a catalyst and a portion of other reaction products and unconverted cyclohexane;